

Serial No. 09/965,538

March 13, 2003

Page 2 of 10

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor element comprising:

a thermistor element body including a top surface and a bottom surface; electrodes disposed on the top surface and the bottom surface of the thermistor element body;

lower and upper terminals arranged such that each of the electrodes is connected with a respective one of the lower and upper terminals, and each of the lower and upper terminals is extended downward;

wherein said lower terminal includes a junction portion contacting said thermistor element body, a short vertical-leg portion bent vertically in a downward direction substantially perpendicular at an angle of about 90° to the surface of said thermistor element body, and a lower-end portion which extends lengthwise in the radial direction substantially parallel to the junction portion and substantially perpendicular to the short vertical-leg portion;

~~wherein said vertical leg portion of the lower terminal is placed inside the thermistor element body in a radial direction from an outer edge of the thermistor element body.~~

2. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor element according to Claim 1, wherein said vertical-leg portion of the lower terminal is located in the vicinity of the center of the thermistor element body.

3. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor element according to Claim 1, wherein a junction portion of the upper terminal and one of the electrodes are arranged to overlap each other at a central portion of the thermistor element body.

Serial No. 09/965,538

March 13, 2003

Page 3 of 10

- Pub. C1*
- 3/13/03*
Cont.
4. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor element according to Claim 1, wherein the thermistor element body has a substantially round button shape.
5. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor element according to Claim 1, wherein each of the electrodes includes a nickel layer and a silver layer.
6. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor according to Claim 1, wherein each of the terminals has a flat-plate shaped configuration and is made of stainless steel.
7. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor according to Claim 1, wherein a lower end of the vertical-leg portion is bent to define a horizontal connection portion.
8. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor according to Claim 1, wherein the lower terminal has a junction portion connected with one of the electrodes at a location only near the central portion of the thermistor element body.
9. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor according to Claim 1, wherein the upper terminal includes a vertical-leg portion that is longer than the vertical-leg portion of the lower terminal.
10. (original) A surface-mountable PTC thermistor according to Claim 9, wherein a lower end of the vertical-leg portion of the upper terminal is bent to define a horizontal connection portion.
-